

## Claims

- Sub. at 1. A spindle nut retainer for preventing disengagement of a nut threadedly engaged to a  
 2 spindle, comprising:  
 3 an integral base section and peripheral section maintaining a cup-shaped configuration;  
 4 wherein said base section defines a central aperture; and  
 5 wherein said peripheral section has an interior surface and includes a plurality of fingers  
 6 which define one or more longitudinal windows therebetween. said fingers including nut  
 7 engaging surfaces on the interior surface of the peripheral section.
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2. The spindle nut retainer of claim 1 wherein said nut engaging surfaces each comprise two  
 2 angled surfaces.
3. The spindle nut retainer of claim 1 wherein said central aperture is D-shaped.
4. The spindle nut retainer of claim 1 wherein said base section is flat.
5. The spindle nut retainer of claim 1 wherein said base section is reinforced around said  
 2 central aperture.
- 1 6. The spindle nut retainer of claim 1 made from polymer.

- Sub. at 7. The spindle nut retainer of claim 1 wherein said peripheral section includes an integrally  
 2 formed ring at an end opposite said base section.
- 1 8. A spindle nut retainer for preventing disengagement of a nut threadedly engaged to a  
 2 spindle, comprising:  
 3 an integral base section and peripheral section maintaining a cup-shaped configuration;  
 4 wherein said base section defines a central aperture; and

5 wherein said peripheral section comprises a plurality of fingers which create one or more  
 6 longitudinal windows therebetween, said fingers including a flared end bent towards the center  
 7 of said spindle nut retainer.

1 9. The spindle nut retainer of claim 8 wherein said central aperture is D-shaped.

1 10. The spindle nut retainer of claim 8 wherein said base section includes a tab bent in line  
 2 with said fingers.

1 11. The spindle nut retainer of claim 8 wherein said fingers having a flared end are T-shaped.

1 12. The spindle nut retainer of claim 8 made from steel.

Sub 13. A spindle nut locking system comprising:  
 2 a spindle having a first end;  
 3 a nut threadedly engaged to said spindle, said nut having flats;  
 4 a spindle nut retainer, circumscribing said nut and said spindle, comprising an integral  
 5 base section and peripheral section maintaining a cup-shaped configuration wherein said  
 6 base section defines a central aperture, and wherein said peripheral section includes a  
 7 plurality of fingers which create one or more longitudinal windows therebetween.

1 14. The spindle nut locking system of claim 13 wherein said spindle has a D-shaped cross-  
 2 section adjacent to said first end.

1 15. The spindle nut locking system of claim 14 wherein said central aperture is D-shaped and  
 2 said spindle nut retainer circumscribes the D-shaped cross section of said spindle resulting in  
 3 rotational interference between said spindle nut retainer and said spindle.

1 16. The spindle nut locking system of claim 13 wherein said peripheral member has an  
 2 interior surface which defines a plurality of nut engaging surfaces.

- 1 17. The spindle nut locking system of claim 13 wherein said peripheral section comprises a
- 2 plurality of fingers which create one or more longitudinal windows therebetween, said fingers
- 3 including a flared end bent towards the center of said spindle nut retainer.

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